

Application No. 09/186,810

treatment of only a portion of a prosthesis with a solution, such as a solution containing polyvalent cations, is described further in copending and commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/850,812, now U.S. Patent 6,206,917 to Williams et al., entitled "Differential Treatment of Prosthetic Devices," incorporated herein by reference.

At page 22, lines 3-21, please replace the paragraph with the following:

Alternatively, the polyvalent ions can be associated with exogenous storage structures which are in turn associated with the substrate. The use of exogenous storage structures for the storage of anticalcification metal ions is described in copending, commonly assigned patent applications Serial Nos. 08/595,402, now U.S. Patent 6,193,749, and 08/690,661, now U.S. Patent 6,302,909, both incorporated herein by reference. Similarly, certain metals such as silver have been associated with antimicrobial activity. Exogenous storage structures can be used to store suitable antimicrobial metal ions in association with a substrate as described in copending and commonly assigned patent application Serial No. 08/787,139, now U.S. Patent 6,013,106, incorporated herein by reference. Preferred exogenous storage structures include, for example, ferritin and other metal storage proteins. The exogenous storage proteins can be associated with the substrate in ways similar to those used for VEGF. The activities should not interfere with each other.

In the Claims

Please substitute the following amended claims for those currently pending:

1. (Five Times Amended) A prosthesis comprising a substrate and a polypeptide growth factor associated with the substrate by covalent bonding using crosslinking agents, antibody-antigen associations, specific binding protein-receptor associations or enzyme-substrate associations, wherein the crosslinking agents comprise at least two aldehyde functional groups that